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TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LUANDA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY ROME FRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
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SOMALIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
USCINCTRANS INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1994

1. BELOW IS AF PRESS GUIDANCE ON SOMALIA, IO PRESS GUIDANCE ON RWANDA AND PRM PRESS GUIDANCE ON RWANDA.

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2. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - SOMALIA: SITUATION UPDATE

- Q: WHY DO WE NEED 2,000 MARINES TO PROTECT UNDER 200 AMERICANS?
- A: AN AMPHIBIOUS READINESS GROUP HAS BEEN IN THE REGION ON A REGULAR BASIS SINCE LAST OCTOBER. WE REFER YOU TO THE PENTAGON FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE MOVEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL UNITS.

WE REMAIN STRONGLY COMMITTED TO PROTECTING AMERICAN CITIZENS AND PROPERTY. WE INTEND TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO PROTECT THEM. THAT IS AN IMPORTANT MISSION OF U.S. FORCES IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING SOMA IA.

- Q: HOW MANY AMERICANS ARE IN SOMALIA NOW?
- A: TO DATE, THIRTEEN PEOPLE WORKING AT USLO HAVE RELOCATED TO NAIROBI UNTIL THE SECURITY SITUATION STABILIZES. THE US LIAISON OFFICE IN MOGADISHU REMAINS

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OPEN WITH A REDUCED STAFF.

THERE ARE OVER 400 AMERICANS IN SOMALIA, INCLUDING OFFICIAL PERSONNEL, THE MARINE CORPS UNIT PROTECTING OUR MISSION, CONTRACT EMPLOYEES, MEMBERS OF THE UN STAFF, RELIEF AGENCY WORKERS, AND DUAL NATIONALS REGISTERED WITH OUR LIAISON OFFICE. THERE ARE OTHER DUAL NATIONALS, PERHAPS IN THE HUNDREDS, WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED.

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PAGE 04 STATE 174033 292304Z Q: WITH REGARD TO BOB OAKLEY'S REMARKS IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, DO WE AGREE THAT THIS IS "JUST A BLIP ON THE SCREEN AND THAT WE SHOULD NOT OVERREACT?"

A: WHILE THE RECENT FIGHTING HIGHLIGHTS THE CONTINUING INSTABILITY IN SOMALIA, IT DID NOT CAUSE US TO CLOSE OUR MISSION. UN AND RELIEF AGENCIES REDUCED THEIR STAFF AS WELL BUT DID NOT SUSPEND THEIR ASSISTANCE EFFORTS.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON THE SECURITY SITUATION WHILE CONTINUING TO SUPPORT EFFORTS BY THE UN TO ENCOURAGE THE POLITICAL RECONCILIATION PROCESS.

THE FUTILITY OF FIGHTING SHOULD CONVINCE SOMALI LEADERS THAT IT IS TIME FOR THEM TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS.

WE WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA.

- O: WHAT IS OAKLEY'S STATUS?
- A: AMBASSADOR OAKLEY IS A PRIVATE CITIZEN WHO, BECAUSE OF HIS PAST ROLE IN SOMALIA, FOLLOWS THE SITUATION THERE CLOSELY. HE HAS NO POLICYMAKING ROLE NOW.
- 3. IO PRESS GUIDANCE RWANDA: CURRENT SITUATION
- Q: PLEASE PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE FIGHTING. ALSO, HAVE THERE BEEN ANY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FRENCH UNCLASSIFIED

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INTERVENTION? WHAT IS THE STATUS OF TROOP CONTRIBUTIONS
TO UNAMIR? WHAT RECENT EFFORTS HAS UNAMIR MADE TO
EVACUATE CIVILIANS TO SAFER AREAS? WHAT IS THE STATUS OF
THE ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC) SHIPMENTS TO THE AREA?

A: UN SOURCES REPORT THAT IT WAS RELATIVELY CALM IN AND AROUND KIGALI DURING THE NIGHT (WHEN HEAVY FIGHTING USUALLY OCCURS). NO MAJOR GAINS HAVE BEEN MADE BY EITHER SIDE.

THERE HAVE BEEN NO NEW MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FRENCH INTERVENTION SINCE YESTERDAY WHEN FRENCH SPECIAL FORCES SUCCEEDED IN EVACUATING EIGHT NUNS AND A "LARGE NUMBER" OF CHILDREN FROM KIBUYE.

UNAMIR FORCE COMMANDER GENERAL DALLAIRE HAS ARRIVED IN GOMA, ZAIRE, AND IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH FRENCH EXPEDITION COMMANDER GENERAL LAFOURCADE ON JUNE 29 OR 30.

UNAMIR FORCES YESTERDAY ESCORTED 45 PATIENTS FROM THE ICRC HOSPITAL, WHICH IS IN AN AREA OF HEAVY FIGHTING, TO KING FAISAL HOSPITAL, CONSIDERED TO BE SAFER.

UNAMIR FORCES IN RWANDA STILL NUMBER ABOUT 450. TO DATE THE UN HAS RECEIVED OFFERS FOR TROOP CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EXPANDED UNAMIR FROM ETHIOPIA, GHANA, SENEGAL, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE, THE CONGO, MALAWI, MALI, AND NIGERIA. THE UN IS WORKING TO OBTAIN THE EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR ADDITIONAL DEPLOYMENTS.

FORTY-SIX OF THE FIFTY U.S.-LEASED APC'S HAVE ARRIVED IN UNCLASSIFIED

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ENTEBBE (UGANDA); THE REMAINING FOUR ARE SCHEDULED TO
ARRIVE TOMORROW. ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT FOR THE APC'S (E.G.,
SHIELDING EQUIPMENT, RADIOS) IS DUE TO ARRIVE OVER THE
WEEKEND.

- 4. PRM PRESS GUIDANCE RWANDA: REFUGEE UPDATE
- Q: WOULD YOU PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE RWANDA REFUGEE CRISIS?

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A: REFUGEES CONTINUE TO FLEE RWANDA INTO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. SOME 549,000 RWANDANS HAVE TAKEN REFUGE IN

TANZANIA, ZAIRE, BURUNDI, AND UGANDA. THE MAJORITY OF THESE REFUGEES (ABOUT 436,000) ARE IN TANZANIA.

THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) IS COORDINATING A MASSIVE RELIEF EFFORT. BENACO, CURRENTLY THE LARGEST REFUGEE CAMP IN THE WORLD, NOW HAS AN ESTIMATED POPULATION OF 330,000.

RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS UNHER, ICRC, AND THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES (IFRC) ESTIMATE RELIEF NEEDS FOR 1994 TO TOTAL WELL OVER DOLLARS 200 MILLION. THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP) HAS ALSO APPEALED TO THE DONOR COMMUNITY FOR FOOD AID AND CASH CONTRIBUTIONS TO CONTINUE FEEDING THOSE IN NEED.

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO HELP?
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A: THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS CONTRIBUTED 15 MILLION DOLLARS TO UNHCR, THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, AND THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE RED CROSS TO SUPPORT THEIR ASSISTANCE FROGRAMS FOR THE REFUGEES.

IT ALSO CONTRIBUTED 35 MILLION DOLLARS TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE RED CROSS (ICRC) IN MARCH FOR ITS EMERGENCY PROGRAMS IN AFRICA. MUCH OF THIS FUNDING IS BEING USED FOR RWANDA.

USAID'S OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE HAS A DISASTER ASSISTANCE RESPONSE TEAM (DART) IN THE AREA. TEAM MEMBERS HAVE EVALUATED CONDITIONS IN BURUNDI, UGANDA, TANZANIA AND ZAIRE, AND ARE PROVIDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

USAID/OFDA HAS MADE TWO MILLION DOLLARS AVAILABLE TO ICRC FOR RELIEF OPERATIONS IN RWANDA, AND PLANS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL GRANTS TO NGOS FOR RELIEF ACTIVITIES INSIDE RWANDA.

FOOD FOR PEACE HAS APPROVED CONTRIBUTIONS OF OVER 68 MILLION DOLLARS IN FOOD COMMODITIES FOR THE RWANDA/BURUNDI REGIONAL EMERGENCY THIS FISCAL YEAR.

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THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HAS PROVIDED 12.7 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF FOOD COMMODITIES FOR THE RWANDA/BURUNDI EMERGENCY.

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS CARRIED OUT 97 HUMANITARIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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AIRLIFTS OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR UNHCR WFP, UNICEF AND ICRC TO DISTRIBUTE TO REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS. AIRLIFT SUPPORT TO DATE IS VALUED AT NEARLY SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS.

Q: HAS TPS BEEN GRANTED TO RWANDANS LIVING IN THE U.S.?

A: ON JUNE 7, 1994, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AUTHORIZED TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS) FOR RWANDANS WHO ARRIVED IN THE U.S. ON OR BEFORE JUNE 7, 1994.

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